

Rocky Flats Citizens Advisory Board Recommendation 98-11

to the U.S. Department of Energy

Regarding Release of Revised Plutonium Inventory Information

Approved June 4, 1998

June 4, 1998

Secretary Federico Peña
U.S. Department of Energy
1000 Independence Avenue SW
Washington, D.C. 20585

Dear Secretary Peña:

Through its now almost five years of existence, the Rocky Flats Citizens Advisory Board (RFCAB) has been concerned about the inventory of plutonium and highly enriched uranium at Rocky Flats which remains as a remnant of Cold War operations. The safe transport of these highly dangerous materials from the Denver metropolitan area is of supreme importance to this community.

In 1994, then Secretary of Energy Hazel O'Leary declassified and released inventory numbers regarding the amounts of these materials stored at Rocky Flats and other weapons complex sites across the country. RFCAB applauded her decision. Four years have now gone by since that first inventory announcement. RFCAB is aware that shipments of plutonium and highly enriched uranium have left the site over the past four years, but we are unaware of the exact amounts due to the failure of the Department to release revised inventory numbers. RFCAB is further aware that the Rocky Flats Field Office made a request to DOE Headquarters to release revised inventory numbers over one year ago, but that request has not been acted upon.

Because of its concern with the continued storage of these materials, and because of its desire to see the Department remain committed to the openness initiative implemented by Secretary O'Leary, RFCAB now calls upon the Department of Energy to release updated inventory numbers and to continue to do so on a periodic basis. Release of such inventory numbers is in the best interest of both DOE and the local community in order to provide a sense of accomplishment towards meeting closure goals for the Rocky Flats site.

ADMIN RECORD

We ask that you expeditiously act upon our request in providing revised inventory numbers.

Sincerely,

Tom Marshall
Chair

cc:

Jessie Roberson, DOE-RFFO
Congressman David Skaggs
Senator Wayne Allard

The Rocky Flats Citizens Advisory Board is a community advisory group that reviews and provides recommendations on cleanup plans for Rocky Flats, a former nuclear weapons plant outside of Denver, Colorado.

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